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SPECIAL MEETING OF THE KILKENNY AND SOUTH-EAST OF IRELAND ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

A SPECIAL Meeting of the Members of the Kilkenny and South-East of Ireland Archæological Society, convened by the President in pursuance of a requisition from several of the Members, was held in the Society's Apartments, William-street, on Wednesday, March 18, 1863, with the object of considering the propriety of presenting a testimonial of their appreciation of his services as Treasurer and Honorary Secretary, to the Rev. James Graves.

The Very Rev. the Dean of Ossory, President of the Society, having taken the Chair, said he would read the requisition on which the meeting had been called, and would then be very happy to hear any proposition which the meeting might wish to put before him. He then read the following requisition:—

“To the Very Rev. the Dean of Ossory, President of the Kilkenny and South-East of Ireland Archæological Society.

“REV. SIR,—We, the undersigned Members of the Kilkenny and South-East of Ireland Archæological Society, deeply impressed with a conviction of the obligation which our Society owes to the Rev. James Graves, A. B., M. R. I. A., our valued Treasurer and Honorary Secretary, for his unceasing and unremunerated exertions in the promotion of its objects since its formation, and looking on the present period, when he is about to resume his residence in the vicinity of Kilkenny, as a fit occasion for the expression of our feelings, do hereby request you to convene a meeting of the Society at large, at your earliest convenience, for the purpose of deciding on the best means of giving expression to our sentiments.

“We are, Rev. Sir, faithfully yours,

“W. F. TIGHE.
P. CONNELLAN.
H. BUTLER.
J. LANGRISHE.
JAS. WANDESFORDE BUTLER.
T. H. PONSONBY.
JOHN P. PRENDERGAST.
BARRY DELANY, M. D.
JOHN BROWN, CLK., LL. D.
J. G. ROBERTSON.
PHILIP MOORE, P. P.

R. CULLEY.
BENJAMIN BUNBURY.
JOSEPH GREENE.
JOHN JAMES, L. R. C. S. I.
JOHN G. A. PRIM.
P. A. AYLWARD.
C. HUMFREY.
J. M. TIDSMARSH, J. P.
DANIEL CULLEN, J. P..
PATRICK DUFFY, F. C. S.”

On the motion of Mr. Culley, Bank of Ireland, Mr. Prim and Mr. Robertson were requested to act as Secretaries to the meeting, and in carrying out such arrangements as might be resolved on.

Mr. Prim then read numerous letters from Members of the Society who were unable to be present. The Lieutenant of the County,

Colonel the Right Hon. W. F. Tighe, wrote requesting, in case he should not be able to attend, that it might be mentioned "that it will give him much pleasure to join in any mode that may be adopted of expressing the Members' approbation of the signal services of Mr. Graves in promoting the interests of the Kilkenny and South-East of Ireland Archæological Society." The Earl of Courtown intimated that "he had great pleasure in taking this opportunity of saying, that he thought that Mr. Graves' exertions in behalf of the Society deserve the warmest thanks of its Members." Lord James Butler observed that "he was sure there was but one feeling with regard to Mr. Graves personally; and as to the value of his services there could be no question." Sir Erasmus Dixon Burrowes wrote—"I beg to state that I fully concur in the contemplated measure of the Society to express to the Rev. James Graves its sense of his services to that body. The long, the able, and untiring efforts freely exercised on the part of that gentleman in a most successful and disinterested manner in extending the operations of the Society, and tending largely to the interest and instruction of the public mind by his effective supervision of its Journal, deserve well of its members; and the present occasion affords a fitting opportunity to the Society to testify its grateful acknowledgments of his valuable services, by tendering to him some grateful tribute to his long-tried and well-known merit. I shall therefore thank you to put my name down for £2 towards furthering this object in whatever manner the Society may determine." Sir James Langrishe, Bart., "as a very recently admitted Member, would be willing to join in any arrangement which might be come to for suitably testifying to the appreciation felt by the Members of Mr. Graves' exertions on behalf of the Society."—The Very Rev. the Dean of Leighlin was "sure that all would agree in testifying of the care and diligence which Mr. Graves bestows in his arduous duties of Treasurer and Secretary. To him we owe the Society, now in such a prosperous, healthy state; and I trust some measure may be proposed to mark our sense of his valuable gratuitous services." The Rev. Philip Moore, P.P., Johnstown, whilst regretting his inability to be present at a meeting which he was largely instrumental in having convened, stated, "I will heartily join in any measures that may be adopted towards getting up a suitable testimonial to the Rev. J. Graves. I suggest a service of plate as the most useful and ornamental thing that could be offered." The Rev. Samuel Hayman, Youghal, wrote as follows:—"I wish that it were in my power to attend your meeting, that I might give *viva voce* expression to my sense of the Rev. James Graves' services to the Kilkenny Archæological Society. These services appear to me to be national in their character; because it would be difficult to say how many young antiquaries have been trained by the papers of the Transactions. North, South, East and

West, such students are now to be found ; and a reverential spirit for the monuments of the past has very generally taken the place of the wanton destructiveness that until lately prevailed. I shall be very happy to contribute to any fund, which may mark in a permanent manner our gratitude for the Rev. James Graves' unwearied services." The Rev. John Francis Shearman, R. C. C., Dunlavin, wrote :—" I am glad that the tardy opportunity has at length come when the Members of the Kilkenny Archæological Society will testify to the many obligations they owe to the zeal and disinterested services of the Rev. James Graves. On the due appreciation of them I feel assured there will be unanimity of sentiment, which I trust will result in the presentation of some suitable memorial to the Rev. Mr. Graves in acknowledgment of his merits as an archæologist, and of the obligation the Members of the Society owe to him. I beg to give my name as a subscriber for £1 for this suggested presentation." The Right Hon. John Wynne, Hazelwood, observed :—" I consider that no expression of opinion could be too strongly worded to mark the sense which the Members of the Kilkenny Archæological Society entertain of the value of Mr. Graves' services." John Windele, Esq., Blair's Castle, Cork, said :—" In common with every subscriber to the Society in this locality, I feel that we owe a deep debt of gratitude to the Rev. Mr. Graves for his long invaluable services to Irish archæology. No compliment we could pay would exceed my sense of what is due to him. Something more substantial than mere words ought to be presented as a testimony to his merits." James S. Blake, Esq., Ballinamona, wrote :—" I cordially unite with the Society in an expression of appreciation for the valuable services which the Rev. James Graves has rendered to the whole country in his efforts to preserve the memorials of former days, and to treasure up whatever is left from a bye-gone time that would inform the patriot of the greatness, and the historian of the usages and customs of Ireland. To the Rev. James Graves we not only owe this, but also the great extension of the Society, and the popularity it enjoys, and the fostering of a feeling of respect amongst the people for what remains from antiquity, and a desire to preserve it ; and to the estimable virtues of his private character we are much indebted for the uninterrupted good feeling which happily unites all parties amongst ourselves." From J. P. Prendergast, Esq., Barrister-at-law ; Dr. Bradley, Kells-Grange ; T. Power, Esq., J. P., Kilkenny ; Town Councillor Edmund Murphy, and several other Members of the Society, there were also strong expressions of feeling as to the propriety of testifying in a substantial manner the general appreciation of Mr. Graves' long and untiring exertions.

The President observed that these were very gratifying testimonials indeed of the manner in which Mr. Graves was regarded by the Members of the Society, far and near.

Peter Connellan, Esq., J. P., D. L., Coolmore, said it was his pleasing office to propose the first resolution to be passed at a meeting held to consider the best means of properly acknowledging the services of a gentleman who was not only the personal friend of most of those present, but was a man of such talent, zeal, research, and singleness of disposition as do not often fall to the lot of any one; and which had won for him the esteem and admiration of men of learning, and caused the name of the locality with which he was connected to be everywhere respected. His exertions on behalf of their Society it was not necessary to speak of, after the letters which had been read. There was no doubt that with him (Mr. Graves) it was a labour of love; but that could not detract from their sense of the obligation that they owed him for his unvarying efforts, which had brought their Society to so high a pitch of success. He had no doubt they would all heartily concur in the following resolution, which he now begged leave to propose:—

“Resolved,—That the services of the Rev. James Graves, A. B., M. R. I. A., in first establishing this Society, and since sustaining it by his unceasing exertions, are fully appreciated, and demand from us a mark of recognition.”

Captain Humfrey had very great pleasure in seconding the resolution.

The resolution, having been then put from the chair, passed unanimously.

The Rev. Dr. Browne, Principal of Kilkenny College, said he had a resolution to propose, which naturally followed the former one. He did not consider it necessary to say anything to recommend it to the meeting, for no doubt they were all quite unanimous in their feeling on the matter for which they had come together. The resolution was:—

“Resolved,—That, for effecting this object, a subscription be entered into, for the purpose of presenting Mr. Graves with a suitable token of our regard.”

Daniel Cullen, Esq., J. P., said it afforded him great pleasure indeed to second the motion. Indeed, he would say that he was very thankful to be afforded the opportunity of taking part in any demonstration having for its object the paying of a compliment to Mr. Graves, who, whether he was viewed as a clergyman, a citizen, a philanthropist, or a zealous labourer in the promotion of the objects for which their Society had been established, was worthy of any mark of cordial estimation that could be offered to him. He (Mr. Cullen) had the honour of being one of the earliest Members of this Society, in which, although not a very constant attendant at its meetings, he took a warm interest. He was glad that the first proceeding of the Society in which he had taken a prominent part was one for marking their appreciation of the services of Mr. Graves, whom he was proud to say he had long known, and had always much admired.

The resolution was put, and unanimously passed.

R. Culley, Esq., Agent, Bank of Ireland, moved the following resolution :—

“Resolved,—That a Committee be appointed to communicate with Mr. Graves to ascertain the form our presentation should assume to be most agreeable to him; and that it be an instruction to such Committee to keep strictly in view, so far as consistent with Mr. Graves’s wishes, that the subject selected shall be connected with archæology, and in some way illustrative or promotive of the objects of the Society.”

Mr. Culley said that there had been different opinions as to what shape the proposed testimonial should assume; but his view was that something connected with Mr. Graves’s favourite pursuit, and with which his name was identified, would be most suitable. However, the resolution left it open to them to consult Mr. Graves’s own feelings, by which, of course, they would be largely swayed.

Mr. P. A. Aylward said it afforded him much pleasure to second the resolution.

It was then resolved that the Very Rev. President, the Rev. Philip Moore, P. P., Mr. Culley, and Mr. Prim, should form the Committee.

Peter Burtchaell, Esq., County Surveyor, said he had a resolution to propose. It required no speech, as it would speak for itself, and was a necessary arrangement in order to carry out what they had previously resolved upon :—

“Resolved,—That the Secretaries be requested to issue circulars to all Members, with a copy of our proceedings here to-day, requesting them to co-operate in this matter; and that Richard Culley, Esq., Agent, Bank of Ireland, Kilkenny, be requested to receive subscriptions and act as Treasurer.”

Mr. W. J. Douglas seconded the resolution with very great pleasure. They could not pay a higher compliment to Mr. Graves than he was deserving of.

The resolution passed unanimously.

The next question referred to was, as to the advisability or otherwise of limiting the subscriptions to £1 each.

Mr. Connellan said that, if the subscription was not limited, Colonel Tighe would give £5.

Mr. Burtchaell thought it would be wrong to put any limit to the amount; it had been found to act very prejudicially in the case of the Boyd testimonial. He recommended that whatever any one wished to give, no matter how high or how low—as men who could not afford £1 would wish to give their mite—should be taken.

This suggestion was adopted.

On the motion of Dr. Delany, seconded by Mr. Robertson, the

Dean of Ossory left the chair, and P. Connellan, Esq., was called thereto.

A vote of thanks having been moved by Dr. Delany, and seconded by Dr. James, to the Very Rev. President, for the manner in which he had filled the chair on this occasion, the meeting separated.

The following subscriptions in furtherance of the objects of the Special Meeting have been received. The list is printed in the order of the reception of the subscriptions by the Honorary Treasurer:—

	£	s.	d.
The Most Honourable the Marquis and the Marchioness of Ormonde,	5	0	0
Colonel the Right Hon. W. F. Tighe, Lieutenant of the county of Kilkenny,	5	0	0
The Right Hon. the Earl of Dunraven,	3	0	0
Benjamin Lee Guinness, Dublin,	2	2	0
The Right Hon. the Marquis of Kildare,	2	0	0
The Right Hon. the Earl of Courtown,	2	0	0
The Right Hon. Lord James Wandesforde Butler,	2	0	0
Sir Erasmus Dixon Burrowes, Bart.,	2	0	0
The Very Rev. the Dean of Ossory,	2	0	0
Peter Connellan, D. L., Coolmore,	2	0	0
The Rev. John Louis Irwin,	2	0	0
The Rev. George L. Shannon, Ranelagh Road, Dublin,	2	0	0
Richard Culley, Agent, Bank of Ireland, Kilkenny,	2	0	0
John G. A. Prim, Kilkenny,	2	0	0
J. M'Namara Cantwell, Dublin,	1	1	0
Rev. Dr. Browne, Kilkenny College,	1	0	0
Professor C. C. Babington, St. John's College, Cambridge,	1	0	0
The Rev. Philip Moore, P. P., Johnstown,	1	0	0
The Rev. Samuel Hayman, A. B., Youghal,	1	0	0
The Rev. Joseph Moore, P. P., Castletown, Queen's County,	1	0	0
The Rev. John F. Shearman, R. C. C., Dunlavin, Co. Wicklow,	1	0	0
Daniel Cullen, J. P., Kilkenny,	1	0	0
Barry Delany, M. D., Kilkenny District Asylum,	1	0	0
John James, L. R. C. S. I., Kilkenny,	1	0	0
Joseph Greene, Newtown House,	1	0	0
J. R. Corballis, Q. C., Rosemount, county Dublin,	1	0	0
Peter Burtchaell, C. E., County Surveyor, Kilkenny,	1	0	0
Captain Christopher Humfrey, Kilkenny,	1	0	0
James G. Robertson, Kilkenny,	1	0	0
William J. Douglas, Kilkenny,	1	0	0
P. A. Aylward, Kilkenny	1	0	0
Charles E. Bagot, Leeson-street, Dublin,	1	0	0
John Hogan, Kilkenny,	1	0	0
The Right Hon. Lord Clermont,	2	0	0
Benjamin Banbury, Noremount, Kilkenny,	2	0	0
M. H. Gill, University Press Office, Trinity College, Dublin,	2	0	0
Christopher Daine, Southampton,	1	1	0

	£	s.	d.
The Venerable Archdeacon Cotton, Thurles,	1	0	0
Professor W. H. Harvey, M. D., M. R. I. A., Trinity College, Dublin,	1	0	0
The Rev. Charles A. Vignoles, Clonmacnoise,	1	0	0
The Rev. Charles Harte, Whitechurch, county Kilkenny, . . .	1	0	0
The Rev. Thomas Greene, P. P., Skerries, county Dublin, . .	1	0	0
Captain Henry M. F. Langton, Southwick Place, Hyde Park, London,	1	0	0
J. P. Prendergast, Barrister-at-law, Sandymount, Dublin, . .	1	0	0
Michael Cahill, J. P., Ballyconra,	1	0	0
Richard Long, M. D., Arthurstown, county Wexford,	1	0	0
Alderman Daniel Smithwick, Kilkenny,	1	0	0
The Rev. Hugh Hamilton, Benmore, Enniskillen,	1	0	0
John Dawson Duckett, J. P., Duckett's Grove, Carlow, . . .	1	0	0
The O'Donovan, Montpelier, Cork,	1	0	0
The Right Hon. Lord Talbot de Malahide, F.S.A., M.R.I.A., .	2	0	0
Edmund Smithwick, J. P., Kilcreene,	1	0	0
James M. Tidmarsh, J. P., Sion Villa,	1	0	0
John Lindsay, Maryville, Cork,	0	10	0
Robert Malcomson, Millview, Clonmel,	1	0	0
Thomas Bradley, L. R. C. S. L., Kells Grange, Stoneyford, . .	0	10	0
Patrick Duffy, F. C. S., Kilkenny,	0	10	0
Thomas Power, J. P., Beechville, Kilkenny,	1	0	0
Charles C. Haines, Mallow,	0	10	0
Lieutenant-Colonel A. L. Beamish, K. H., F.R.S., Lota Park, Cork,	1	0	0
Captain Ponsonby, Sion House, Kilkenny,	1	0	0
Major R. Dunne, Brittas, Clonaslee,	0	10	0
Hon. Standish Prendergast Vereker, London,	1	0	0
Venerable Archdeacon O'Shea, P. P., Ballyhale,	1	0	0
Edward Benn, Glenravel, Clough,	1	0	0
Alderman Edmund Palk, Southampton,	1	1	0
Ross Mahon, Ladywell, Athlone,	1	0	0
Richard Magee, Assistant Surgeon, Kilkenny Fusiliers, . . .	0	10	0
Rev. John O'Hanlon, R. C. C., SS. Michael and John, Ex- change-street, Dublin,	1	0	0
James C. Fitzgerald Kenney, J. P., A. B., M. R. I. A., Merrion- square, Dublin,	1	0	0
Mrs. Purcell, Kilfera, Kilkenny,	1	0	0
The Rev. Thomas B. M'Creery, Cloyne,	0	10	0
John Windele, Blair's Castle, Cork,	1	0	0
Thomas J. Tennison, J. P., Portneligan, county Armagh, . .	1	0	0
Robert Malcomson, Solicitor, Carlow,	1	0	0
Evelyn P. Shirley, M. P., Lower Eatington Park, Stratford- on-Avon,	2	0	0
Rev. John Lymbery, The Castle, Fethard,	1	0	0
John Power, Mount Richard, Carrick-on-Suir,	1	0	0
George Victor Du Noyer, 72, Stephen's Green, Dublin, . . .	1	0	0
Charles Haliday, J. P., M. R. I. A., Monkstown Park, county Dublin,	1	0	0

	£	s.	d.
Dr. John Thomas Campion, Kilkenny,	1	0	0
Myles Sterling, M. D., Thomastown,	0	10	0
Town Councillor Edmund Murphy, Kilkenny,	0	10	0
Peter M'Dermott, Deputy Clerk of the Peace, Kilkenny,	0	10	0
P. Fitzgerald,	0	5	0
The Rev. Luke Fowler, Wellbrook, Freshford,	2	0	0
Edward Odell, A. M., F. S. A., M. R. I. A., Carreglea, Dun- garvan,	2	0	0
The Right Hon. the Earl of Enniskillen,	1	10	0
John Murphy, Mount Loftus,	1	0	0
Harris Prendergast, Barrister-at-law, Old Square, Lincoln's Inn, London,	1	0	0
Captain W. A. Armstrong, J. P., Rathmacnee, Wexford,	1	0	0
Thomas Seigne, Kilfane Cottage,	0	10	0
Robert Stephenson, Redruth, Cornwall,	0	10	0
Rev. C. Cuyler Anderson, Gillingham, Kent,	1	0	0
Rev. Thomas O'Carroll, P. P., Clonoulty, Cashel,	1	0	0
Rev. George H. Reade, Inniskeen, Dundalk,	1	0	0
Thomas Alexander Wise, M. D., Rostellan Castle,	1	0	0
William Oldham, Bedford House, Rathgar, Dublin,	1	0	0
